

As a taxpayer, I am puzzled at why advertising campaigns for health insurance appear to promote high-risk behaviors? Do I as a taxpayer have to cover the consequences of these high-risk behaviors? Does the government agree with this? In an age when many insurance companies risk stratify your premiums based on smoking, obesity, blood pressure and cholesterol levels, where does the government stand on the high-risk behaviors in these ads? Will Americans have to share the costs?

The new health care plan is an opportunity to teach our populations about health responsibility, avoidance of risky behaviors, and promotion of good choices, because our country is shouldering it. Health insurance advertising should promote responsible behavior, no matter the source of the advertising. Please take a stand.

Sincerely,

JULIE WELCH, MD,
Emergency Medicine Physician
and Educator.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 12, 2013

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, December 11, 2013, I was unable to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: On rollcall No. 636, "yea."

IN HONOR OF MURIEL JOHNSON'S 80TH BIRTHDAY

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 12, 2013

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Muriel Johnson, an unparalleled leader and a prominent member of our community, as she celebrates her 80th birthday. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this great civic-minded woman whose vision and commitment to both public service and the arts has contributed so much to the Sacramento region.

A Sacramento resident since 1962, Muriel has dedicated her life to public service and civic involvement. She served several terms on the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors, was elected President of the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) and served on the CSAC Board of Directors for twelve years. She also served as Chair of the Sacramento Area Council of Governments and was the Governor's appointee to the Capitol Area Committee for eleven years. Additionally Muriel served on the Sacramento Public Library Authority, Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency, Cable Commission, Sacramento Regional Sanitation District, Sacramento Regional Transit, and the Sacramento Air Quality Management District. An ardent advocate for women leaders, Muriel served as President for the California Elected Women's Association for Education and Research, now known as California Women Lead, working to increase appointments of women to state boards and commissions.

As a steadfast leader in our community, Muriel has championed local causes and orga-

nizations, raising funds for charities and holding various leadership positions, including President of the Crocker Art Museum and of the Sacramento Junior League. Muriel was appointed Director of the California Arts Council by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger in 2005 and during her six year tenure, she promoted awareness of and public participation in the arts, while strengthening outreach and education efforts. A consistent supporter of investing in local arts, Muriel championed Sacramento County's Art in Public Places which expands the presence of art in public spaces. In 2004 she was named the Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce's "Sacramentan of the Year" honoring her decades of dedication to our community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing the great life of my friend and mentor, Muriel Johnson, as she celebrates her 80th birthday with her husband Ernest, her children, grandchildren, friends and family in Sacramento. Her work has made a lasting impact on our community.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF EARL P. WILLIAMS

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 12, 2013

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Earl P. Williams as he is honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award by the California Cotton Ginners and Growers Associations (CCGGA). Earl is the first individual to ever receive the Lifetime Achievement Award. His decades of service and dedication to cotton ginners and growers around California and the entire nation make him very deserving of this recognition. I have also worked with him personally over the years and know him to be one of the leaders of American agriculture.

Since 1997, Earl has been the President and Chief Executive Officer of CCGGA. The associations represent California's cotton ginning and cotton growing industry in the legal, legislative, and regulatory arenas.

Earl's passion for cotton farming began at a young age due to his family's background in the industry. He spent his childhood years in Arkansas, and in 1958, his family moved to Buttonwillow, California. After graduating from high school in Shafter, California, Earl went on to Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo where he received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Crop Production. His background in cotton growing and technical understanding of crop production prepared him well to serve at CCGGA. From day one, Earl has understood the importance of hard work, and he knows what it takes to produce quality crops.

Earl was one of fifteen charter members of the California Cotton Ginners Association board of directors from 1972 to 1980. He is the past chairman of the Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo Crop Science Department's Advisory Council; a past board member of the Agricultural Energy Consumers Association; and a past board member of the California Agricultural Education Foundation which oversees the California Ag Leadership Program. Earl is a founding member and past Chairman of the Agricultural President's Council. He is also an

advisor to the National Cotton Council of America, the American Cotton Producers, and the National Cotton Ginners Association. Earl serves on the board of directors of Supima, and he is on the Western Agricultural Processors Association's board of directors. Earl's wealth of knowledge coupled with his ability to get things done make him a great leader for the cotton farming community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Earl P. Williams for the contributions he has made to the cotton industry. He serves as a pillar of the agriculture community, and I thank him for his hard work and devotion to maintaining California's valuable agricultural strength.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM MARINO

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 12, 2013

Mr. MARINO. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 630, I was unable to make the vote due to inclement weather, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

HONORING MAE ELIZABETH ROBINSON

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 12, 2013

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor the life of a beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and great-great-grandmother Mae Elizabeth Robinson. She was born on October 9, 1917, and departed her earthly habitat to join Heaven's family on December 5, 2013. She was the center of the family universe and will be so missed.

Mae was a licensed psychiatric technician for the State of California. She loved her family first and loved to host family dinners, which were well known, especially for her fried chicken. In her later years she enjoyed playing cards with her retired friends.

Mae Robinson was an active member nearly 54 years of the Escalon Republican Women Federated Club, California Federation of Republican Women and National Federation of Republican Women. At age 96, Mae served most recently as Vice President of the Escalon RWF club and participated in meetings, activities, Escalon Park Fete, and 'Get out the Vote' efforts in the last election cycle. Mae was known as Mrs. Republican Woman in the Escalon community and served as a mentor to many with great enthusiasm and energy.

Mae was preceded in death by her husband, Claude Robinson and son, Charles Alfred Robinson.

She leaves behind three children: Colleen Woods (Fresno), Bonnie Tabor (Modesto), Carl Robinson (Stockton), and a daughter-in-law, Helen Robinson; two siblings: Gladys Eiland (Los Angeles) and Alfred Stapleton (Modesto); six grandchildren: Rick McCombs (Modesto), Cindy Brown (Fresno), Michael McCombs (Modesto), Diane Goin (Clovis), Cheryl Camacho (San Antonio, TX) and Robbie Robinson (San Angelo, TX).